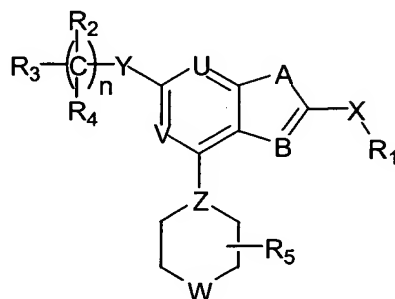


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A compound of formula (I):



wherein

R₁ is aryl or heteroaryl;

each of R₂ and R₄, independently, is H, halogen, CN, alkyl, OR^a, or NR^aR^b;

R₃ is H, halogen, CN, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cyclyl, heterocyclyl, OR^a, OC(O)R^a, OC(O)NR^aR^b, NR^aR^b, NR^aC(O)R^b, NR^aS(O)R^b, NR^aS(O)₂R^b, NR^aC(O)NR^bR^c, NR^aC(S)NR^bR^c, NR^aC(NR^b)NR^cR^d, NR^aC(O)OR^b, S(O)NR^aR^b, S(O)₂NR^aR^b, S(O)R^a, S(O)₂R^a, C(O)R^a, C(O)OR^a, or C(O)NR^aR^b;

R₅ is H or alkyl;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

A is ~~O, S, S(O), S(O)₂~~, or NR^e;

B is ~~N or CR^f~~;

X is O, S, S(O), S(O)₂, NR^e, or C(O);

Y is a covalent bond, C(O), C=NR^a, O, S, S(O), S(O)₂, or NR^e;

Z is N or CH;

each of U and V, independently, is ~~N or CR~~; and

W is O, S, or NR^e;

in which each of R^a , R^b , R^c , and R^d , independently, is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cyclyl, or heterocyclyl; R^e is H, alkyl, aryl, acyl, or ~~sulfonyl~~sulfonyl; and R^f is H, alkyl, aryl, acyl, sulfonyl, alkoxyl, amino, ester, amide, CN, or halogen; and

provided that if each of U and V is N, Y is a covalent bond, n is 0, then R_3 is H, CN, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cyclyl, OR^a , $OC(O)R^a$, $OC(O)NR^aR^b$, NR^aR^b , $NR^aC(O)R^b$, $NR^aS(O)R^b$, $NR^aS(O)_2R^b$, $NR^aC(O)NR^bR^c$, $NR^aC(S)NR^bR^c$, $NR^aC(NR^b)NR^cR^d$, $NR^aC(O)OR^b$, $S(O)NR^aR^b$, $S(O)_2NR^aR^b$, $S(O)R^a$, $S(O)_2R^a$, $C(O)R^a$, $C(O)OR^a$, or $C(O)NR^aR^b$.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein Z is N.

4. (Original) The compound of claim 3, wherein W is O.

5. (Original) The compound of claim 1, wherein X is NR^e .

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 1 6, wherein Z is N.

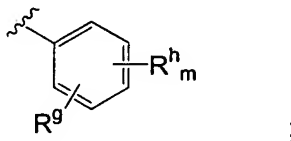
9. (Original) The compound of claim 8, wherein W is O.

10. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 8 6, wherein X is NR^e .

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

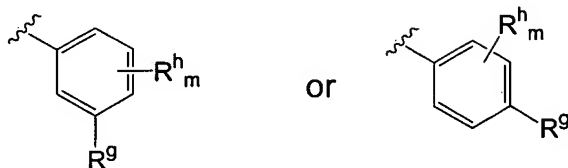
13. (Currently amended) The compound of claim ~~12~~ 10, wherein W is O.
14. (Currently amended) The compound of claim ~~12~~ 10, wherein R₃ is halogen, CN, alkyl, aryl, ~~heteroaryl~~ ~~heteroaryl~~, OR^a, OC(O)R^a, NR^aNR^b, NR^aC(O)R^b, C(O)OR^a, or C(O)NR^aR^b.
15. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 14, wherein R₃ is aryl, heteroaryl, aryloxy, or ~~heteroaryloxy~~ ~~heteroaryloxy~~.
16. (Original) The compound of claim 15, wherein R₃ is heteroaryl.
17. (Original) The compound of claim 15, wherein R₃ is pyridinyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, pyrimidinyl, thiazolyl, indolyl, or indolizinyl.
18. (Original) The compound of claim 15, wherein the compound is a *N*-oxide.
19. (Original) The compound of claim 13, wherein R₁ is aryl.
20. (Original) The compound of claim 19, wherein Y is NR^e.
21. (Original) The compound of claim 19, wherein Y is O.
22. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 19, wherein R₁ is



in which R^g is H, halogen, CN, alkyl, or alkoxy; R^h is halogen, CN, hydroxyl, amino, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy, acyl, alkoxycarbonyl, alkylcarbonoxy, mono- and

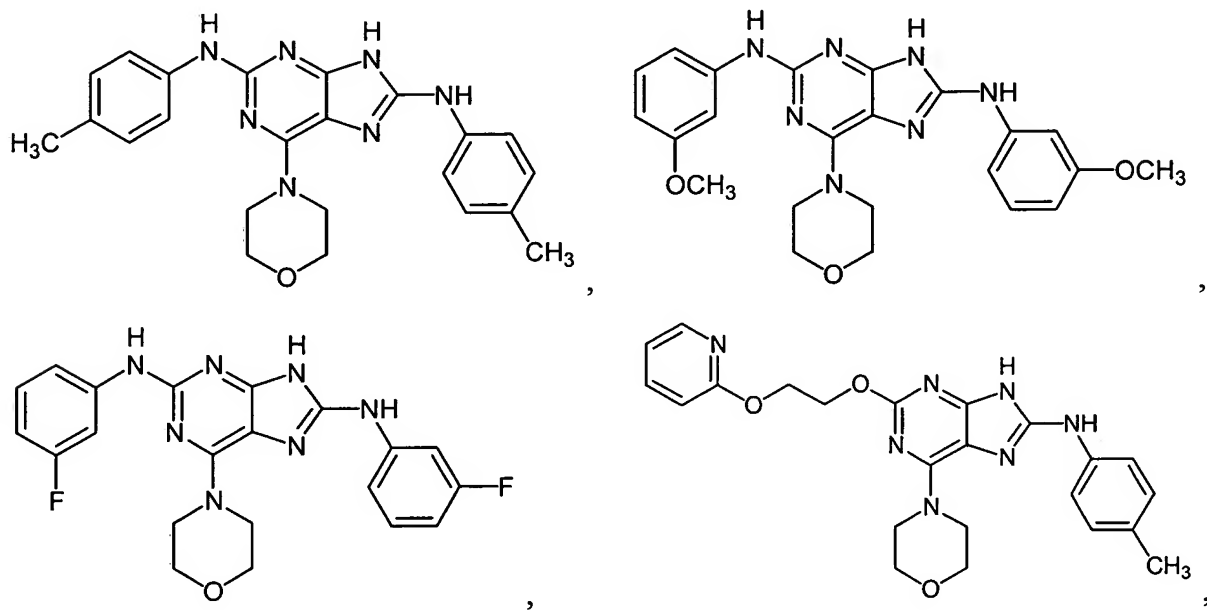
dialkylaminocarbonyl, amidinyl, ureayl, guanadiny, sulfonyl, or sulfonamidyl ~~sulfonamidyl~~; and m is 0, 1, 2, 3, or 4.

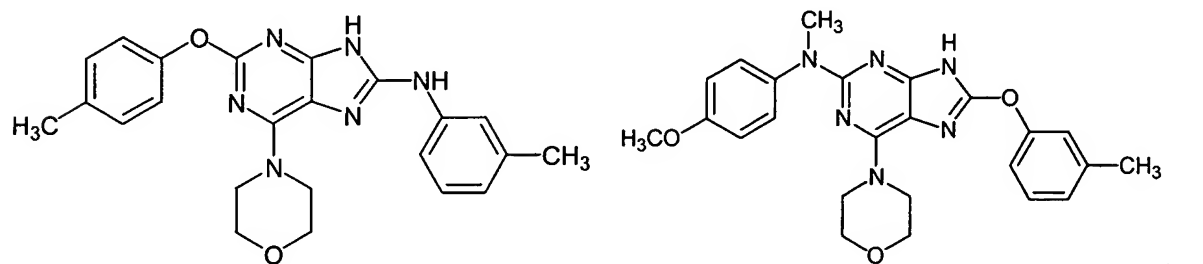
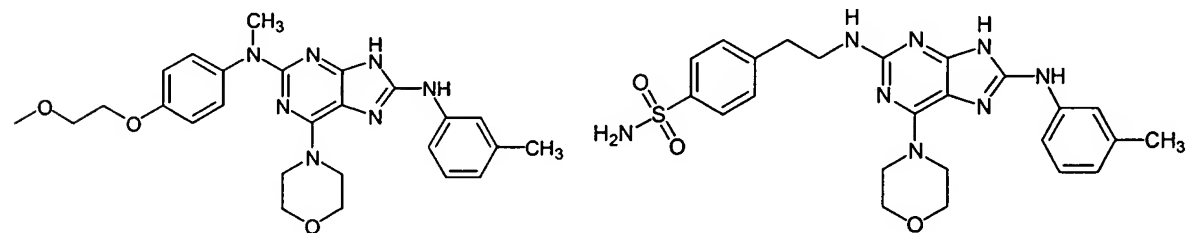
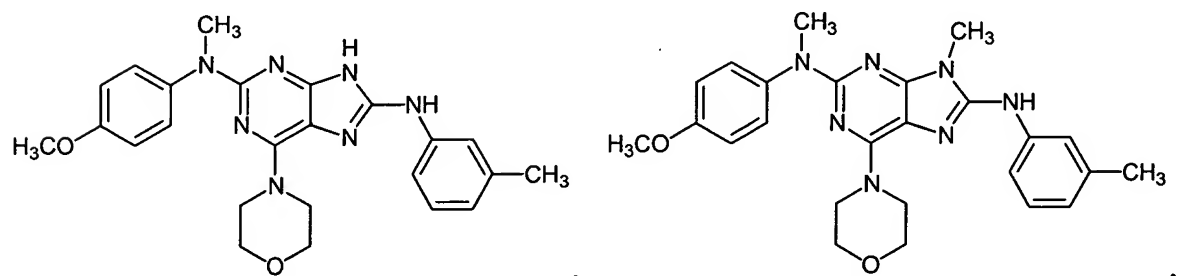
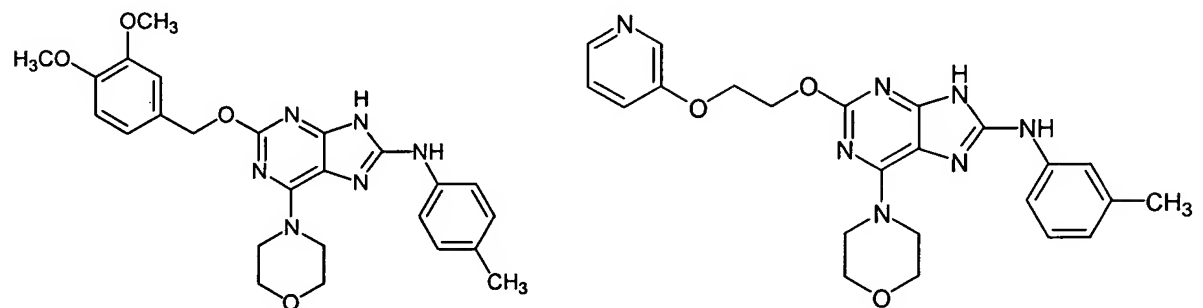
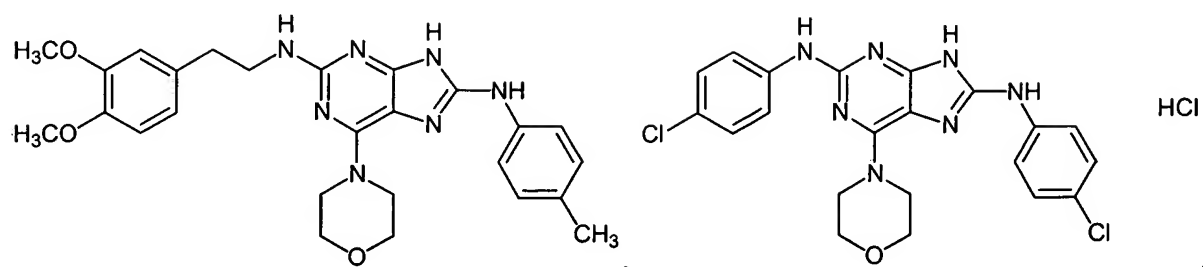
23. (Original) The compound of claim 22, wherein R_1 is

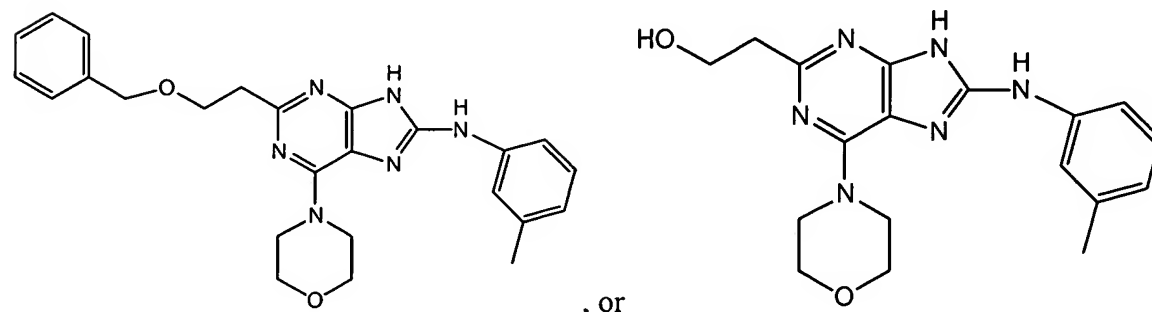
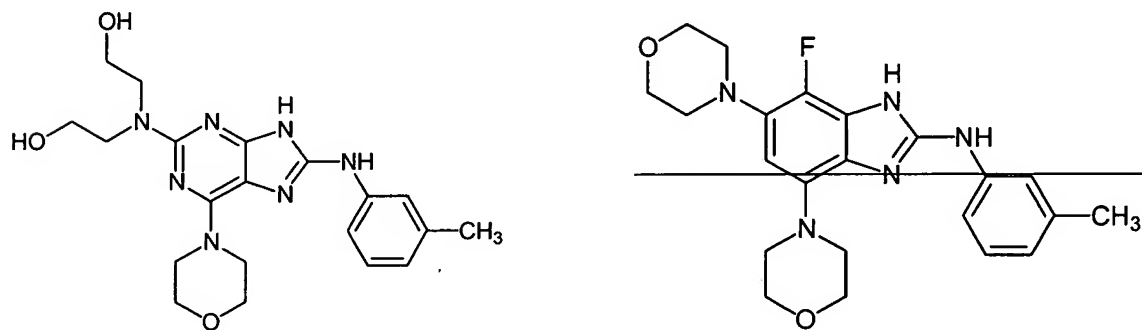
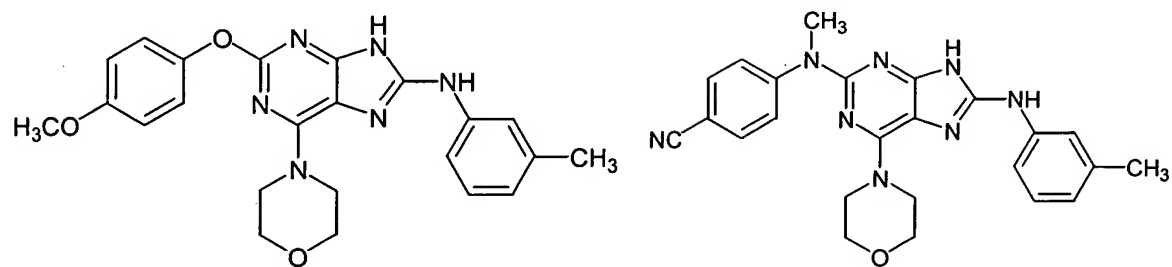
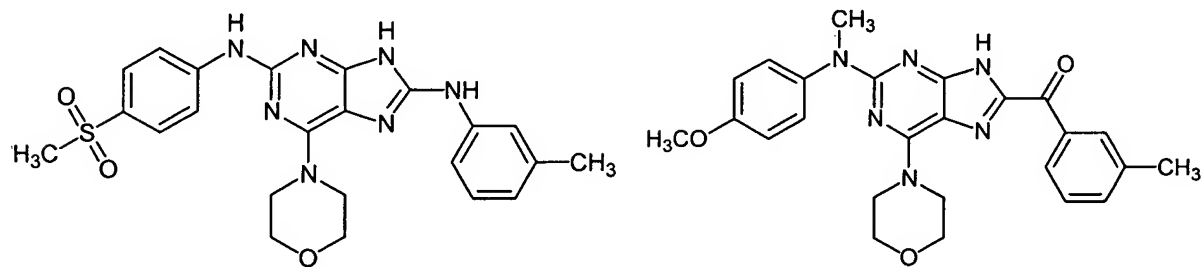
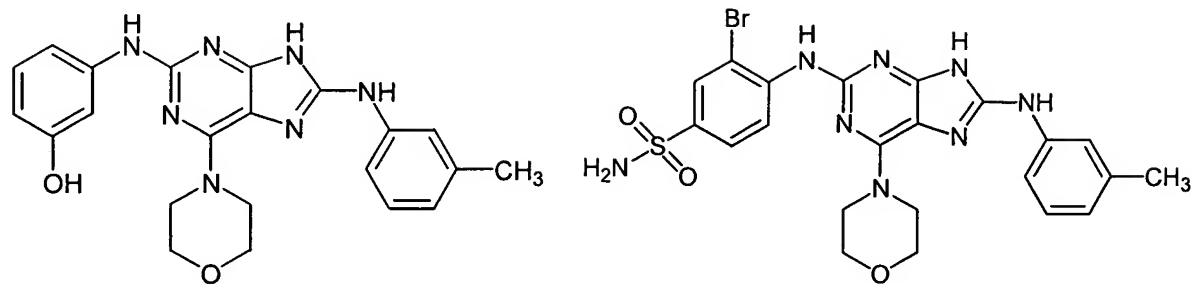


24. (Original) The compound of claim 22, wherein R^g is H, F, Cl, Br, I, CN, Me, Et, Pr, *i*-Pr, OMe, or OEt.

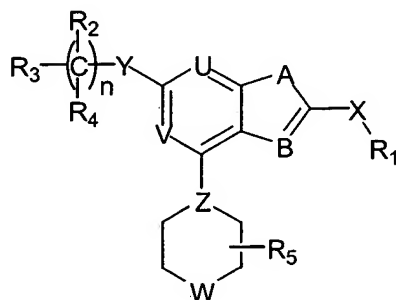
25. (Currently amended) The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is







26. (Withdrawn – Currently amended) A method for treating an interleukin-12 overproduction-related disorder, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a the compound of formula (I):



wherein

R₁ is aryl or heteroaryl;

each of R₂ and R₄, independently, is H, halogen, CN, alkyl, OR^a, or NR^aR^b;

R₃ is H, halogen, CN, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cyclyl, heterocyclyl, OR^a, OC(O)R^a, OC(O)NR^aR^b, NR^aR^b, NR^aC(O)R^b, NR^aS(O)R^b, NR^aS(O)₂R^b, NR^aC(O)NR^bR^c, NR^aC(S)NR^bR^c, NR^aC(NR^b)NR^cR^d, NR^aC(O)OR^b, S(O)NR^aR^b, S(O)₂NR^aR^b, S(O)R^a, S(O)₂R^a, C(O)R^a, C(O)OR^a, or C(O)NR^aR^b;

R₅ is H or alkyl;

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

A is O, S, S(O), S(O)₂, or NR^e;

B is N or CR^f;

X is O, S, S(O), S(O)₂, NR^e, or C(O);

Y is a covalent bond, C(O), C=NR^a, O, S, S(O), S(O)₂, or NR^e;

Z is N or CH;

each of U and V, independently, is N or CR;

W is O, S, or NR^e;

in which each of R^a, R^b, R^c, and R^d, independently, is H, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cyclyl, or heterocyclyl; R^e is H, alkyl, aryl, acyl, or sulfonyl ~~sulfonyl~~; and R^f is H, alkyl, aryl, acyl, sulfonyl, alkoxyl, amino, ester, amide, CN, or halogen.

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein Z is N.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28, wherein W is O.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein X is NR^e.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the disorder is rheumatoid arthritis, sepsis, Crohn's disease, multiple sclerosis, psoriasis, or insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus.

33. (Cancelled)

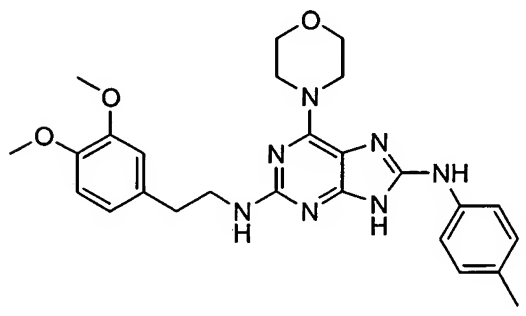
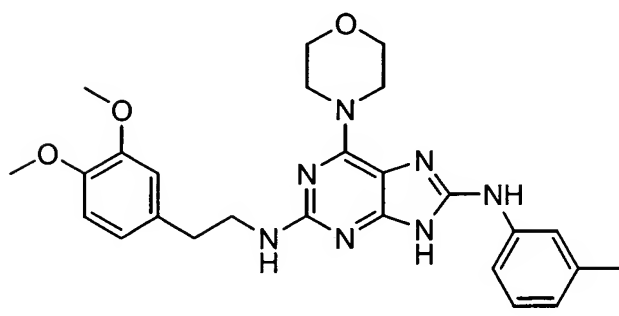
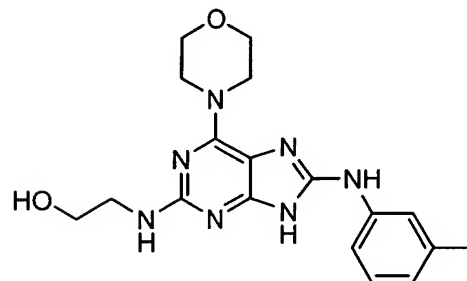
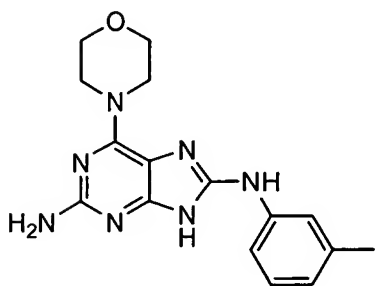
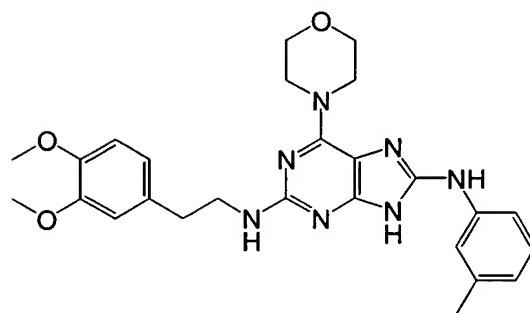
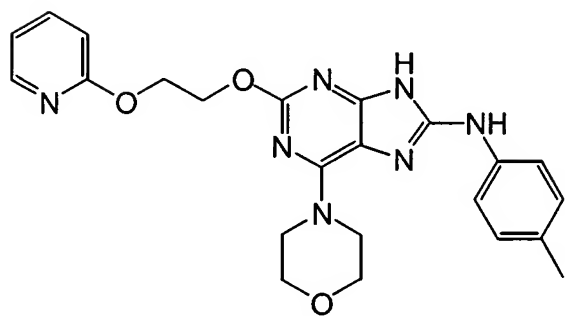
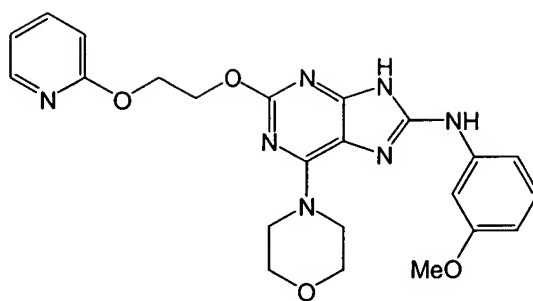
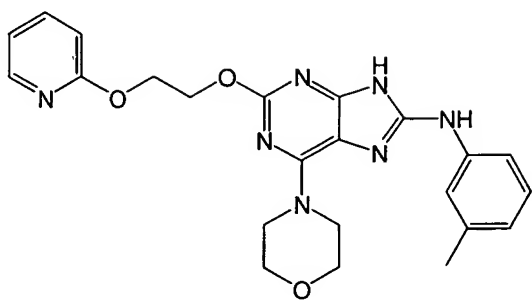
34. (Withdrawn – Currently amended) The method of claim 26 ~~32~~, wherein Z is N.

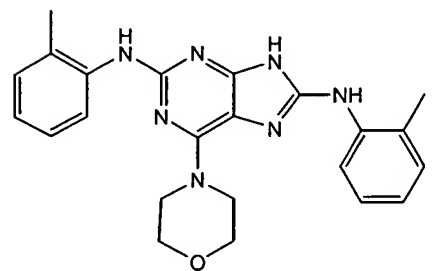
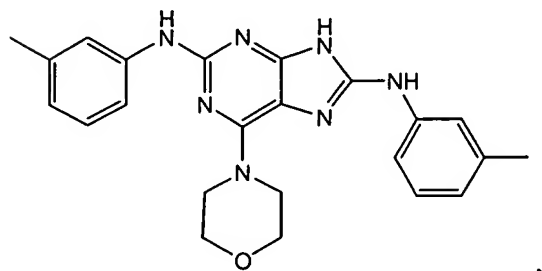
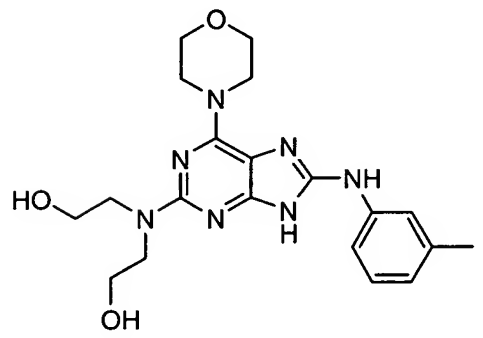
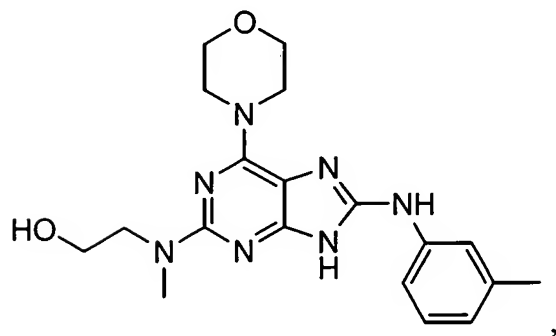
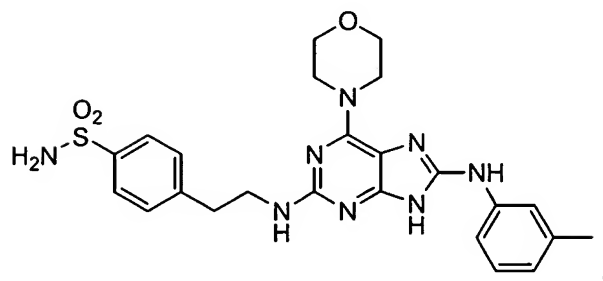
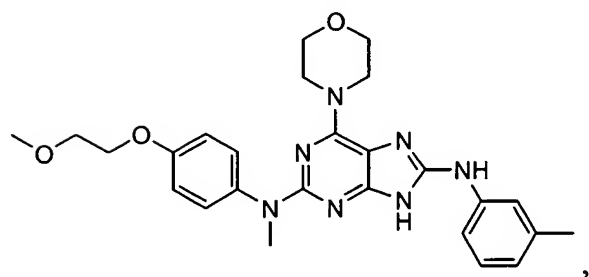
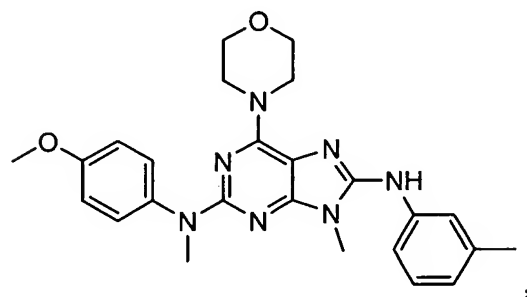
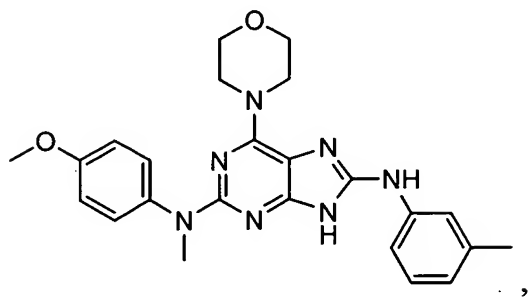
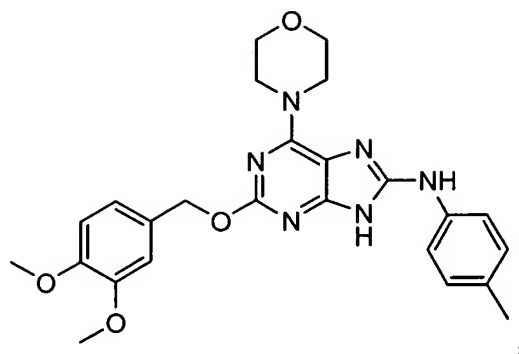
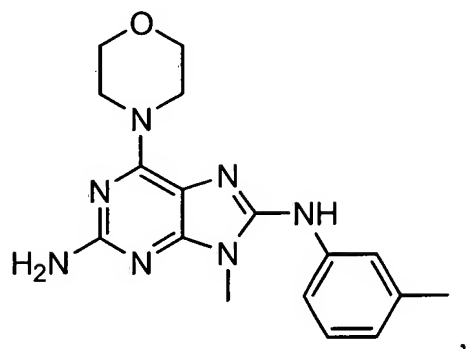
35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein W is O.

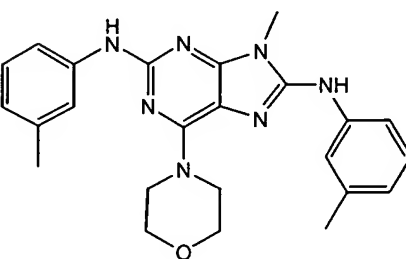
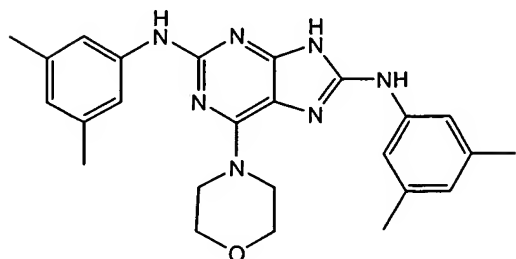
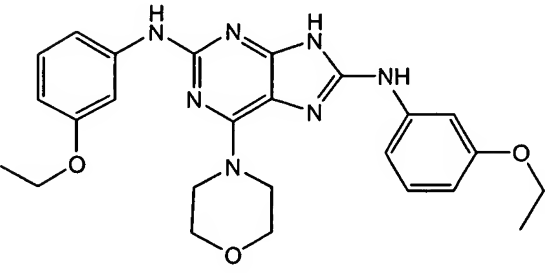
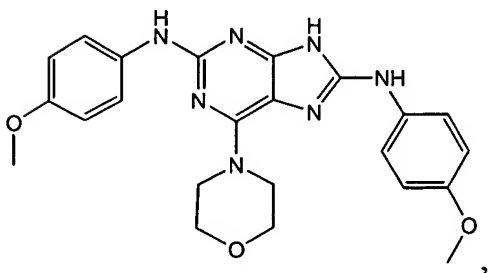
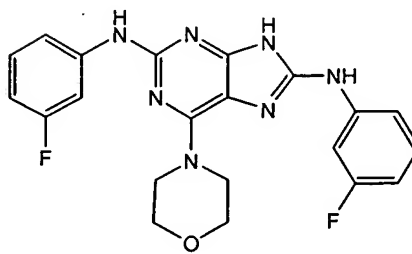
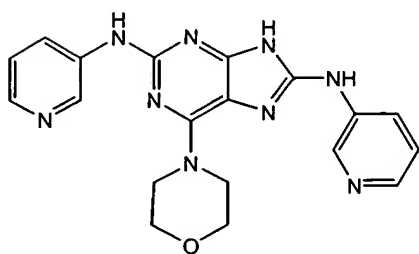
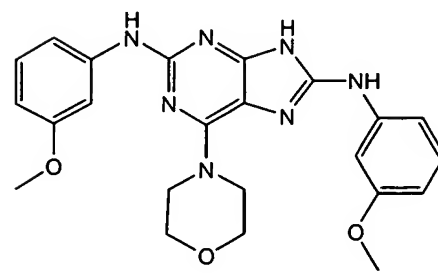
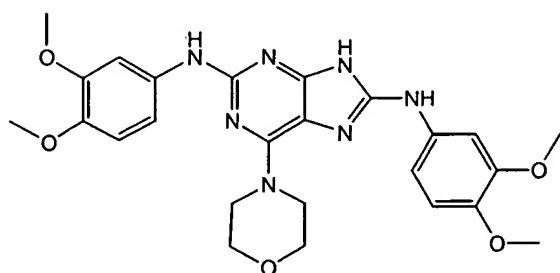
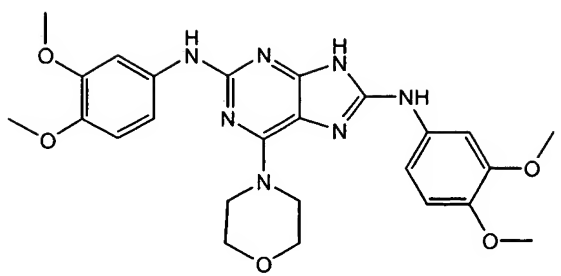
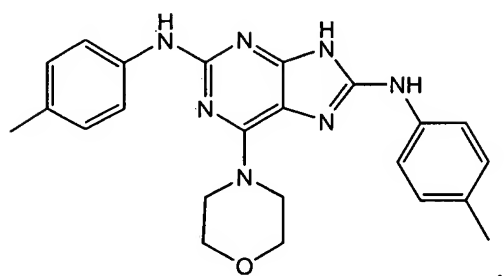
36. (Withdrawn – Currently amended) The method of claim 26 ~~32~~, wherein X is NR^e.

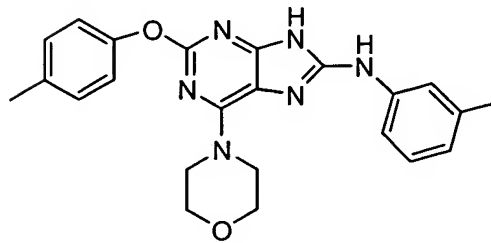
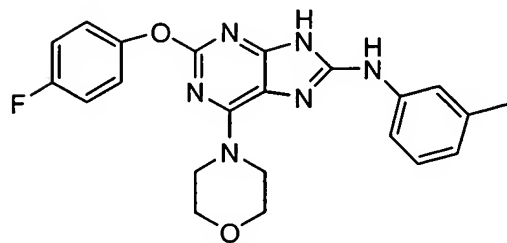
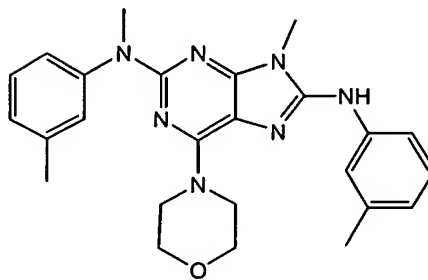
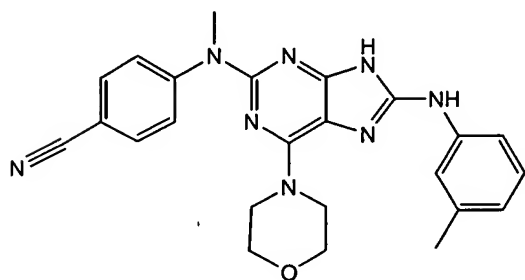
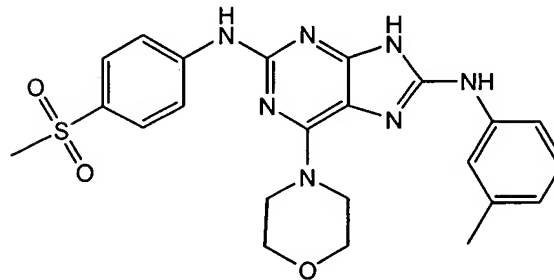
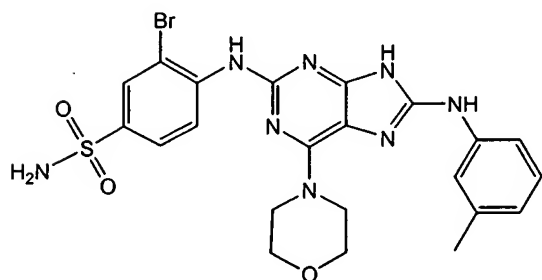
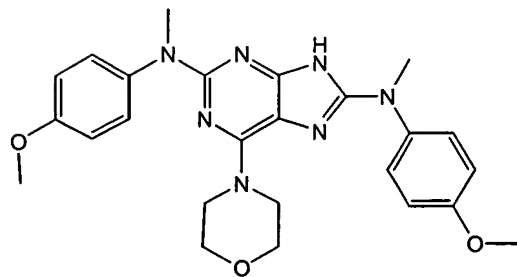
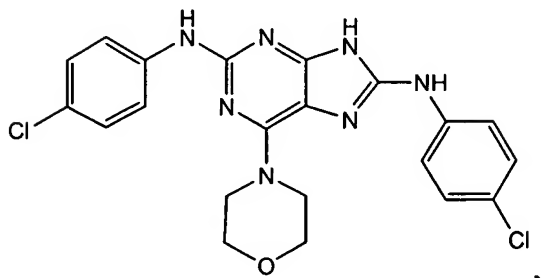
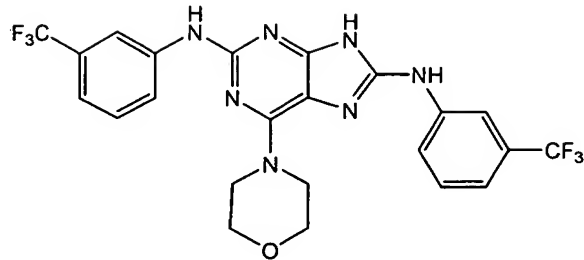
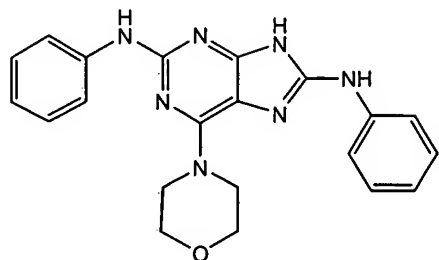
37. (Cancelled)

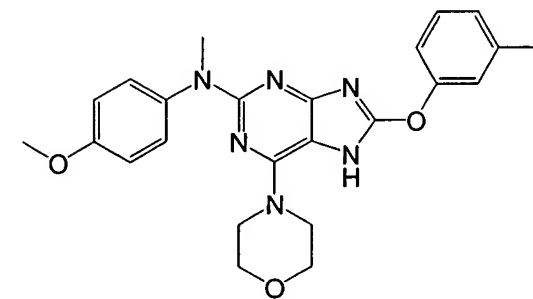
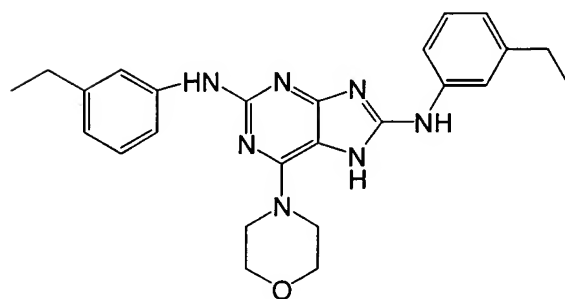
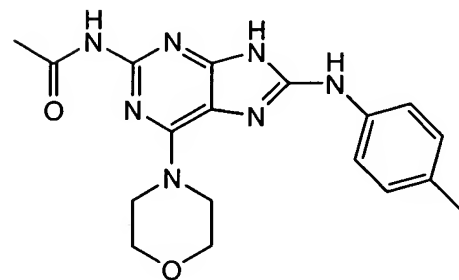
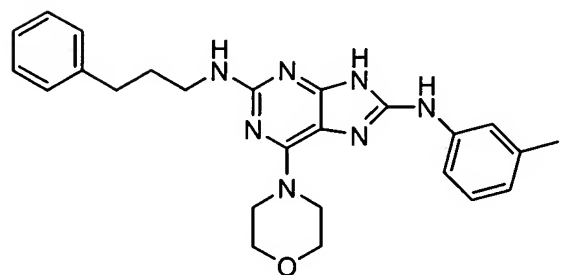
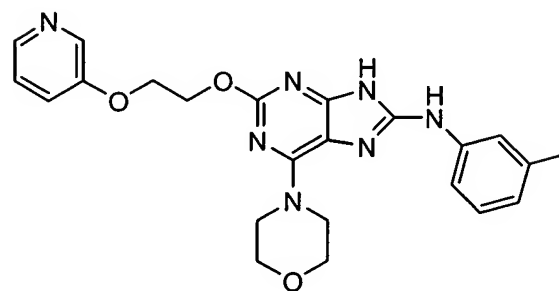
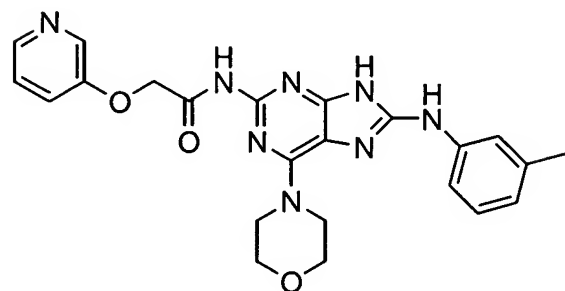
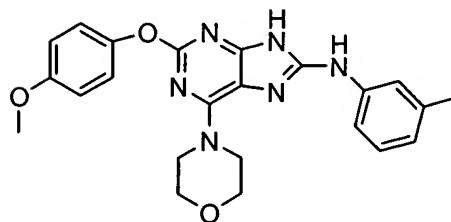
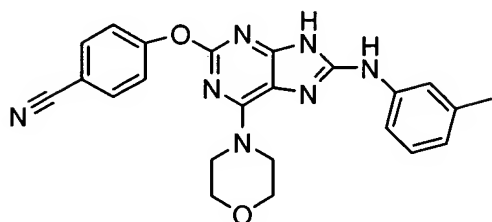
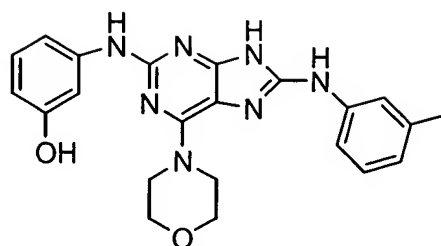
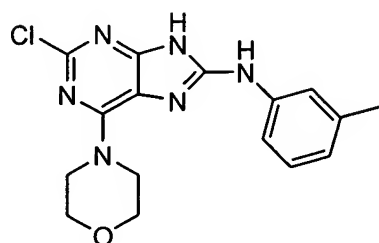
38. (Withdrawn – Currently amended) The method of claim 26, wherein the compound is

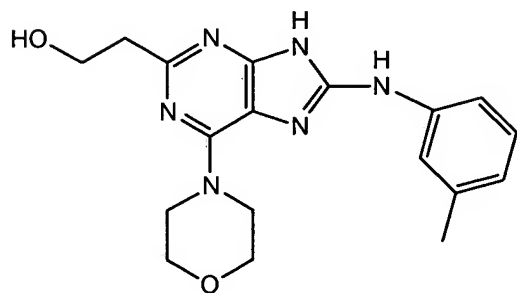
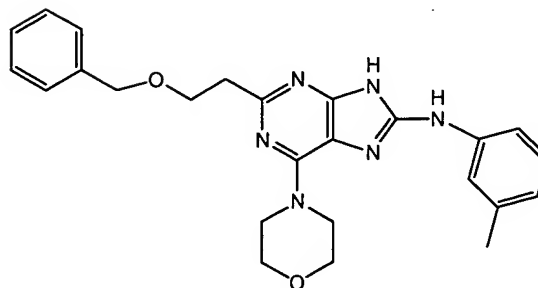
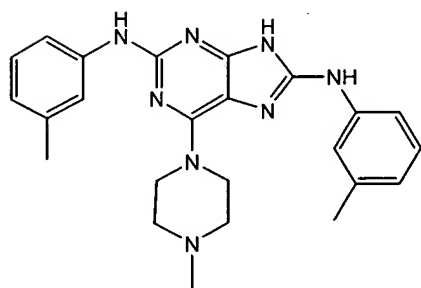
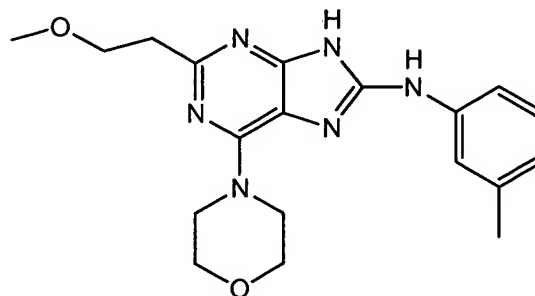
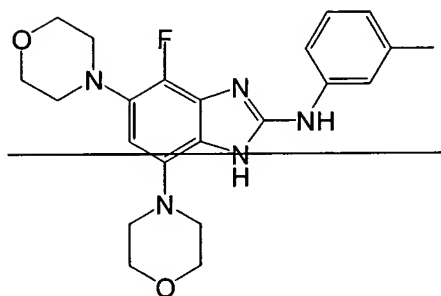
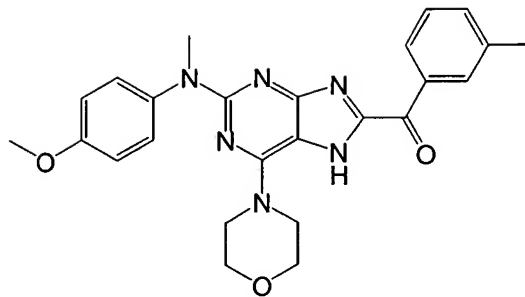
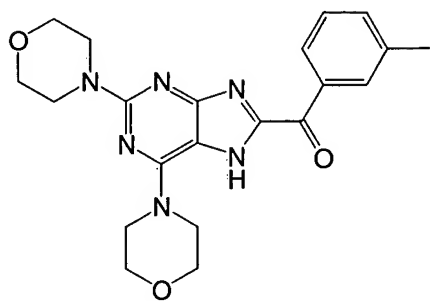












, or